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REPLACEMENT SHEET

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. An extruded optical cable protective component comprising:
2 an extruded blend of
 - 3 (a) a crystalline polypropylene, having a crystallinity of greater than about
4 65 weight percent and a melt flow of from about 1 to about 20 grams per
5 10 minutes at 230 degrees C, and
 - 6 (b) an impact modifying polymer,
7 wherein the crystalline polypropylene and impact modifying polymer being present in
8 amounts effective for providing a test specimen prepared from the extruded blend with
9 a 1-percent secant modulus (ASTM D-790) at 23 degrees C of at least about 1,600 MPa
10 and a Notched Izod (ASTM D-256) at 23 degrees C of at least about 35 J/m.
- 1 2. The extruded optical protective component of Claim 1 wherein the extruded
2 blend further comprises a hydrocarbon oil, thereby improving gel compatibility
3 performance by reducing subsequent hydrocarbon oil absorption.
- 1 3. The extruded optical protective component of Claim 1 or Claim 2 wherein the
2 impact modifying polymer, having polar functionality, thereby reducing hydrocarbon
3 oil absorption to provide improved gel compatibility performance.
- 1 4. The extruded optical protective component of Claim 1 or Claim 2 wherein the
2 extruded component being a tube having a shrinkage of less than about 2.0 percent after
3 24 hours at 100 degrees C.
- 1 5. An optical fiber cable comprising:
2 (a) an extruded optical cable protective component which comprises an
3 extruded blend of
 - 4 (i) a crystalline polypropylene, having a crystallinity of
5 greater than 65 weight percent and a melt flow of from
6 about 1 to about 20 grams per 10 minutes at 230 degrees
7 C, and
 - 8 (ii) an impact modifying polymer,
9 wherein the crystalline polypropylene and impact modifying polymer
10 being present in amounts effective for providing a test specimen
11 prepared from the extruded blend with a 1-percent secant modulus
12 (ASTM D-790) at 23 degrees C of at least about 1,600 MPa and a

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- 13 Notched Izod (ASTM D-256) at 23 degrees C of at least about 35 J/m,
14 and
15 (b) at least one optical fiber transmission medium.
- 1 6. A method of making an extruded optical protective component comprising:
2 (a) extruding a blend of
3 (i) a crystalline polypropylene, having a crystallinity of
4 greater than 65 weight percent and a melt flow of from
5 about 1 to about 20 grams per 10 minutes at 230 degrees
6 C, and
7 (ii) an impact modifying polymer,
8 wherein the crystalline polypropylene and impact modifying polymer
9 being present in amounts effective for providing a test specimen
10 prepared from the extruded blend with a 1-percent secant modulus
11 (ASTM D-790) at 23 degrees C of at least about 1.600 MPa and a
12 Notched Izod (ASTM D-256) at 23 degrees C of at least about 35 J/m.